

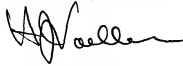
REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification and claims 9 and 10 are amended, and new claims 19 and 20 are added. The amendments to the specification and to claims 9 and 10 correct the misspelling of *Bacillus subtilis*. The specification supports new claims 19 and 20 at least at paragraph 0034. Thus, no new matter is added.

It is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:HJV/hjv

Date: September 26, 2003

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